

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph on page 4 beginning at line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The optical waveguide is mechanically connected to the optical component by means of an insert or ferrule in coupling portion 3. A ~~latching~~ latch 8 that is in the form of an annular snap type connecting mechanism is provided to secure the waveguide.

Please replace the paragraph on page 4 beginning at line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Thereafter, a liquid transparent resin is filled into mold 1 through the opening 2 and preferably is cured at a temperature of ~~approx.~~ approximately 160° C. It should be understood that the molding material is selected for its optical transmission properties and environmental constraints such as device operating temperature. The cure ~~temperate~~ temperature is based upon the selected molding material.